



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, JOINT READINESS TRAINING CENTER AND FORT POLK
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FORT POLK, LOUISIANA 71459-5339

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

AFZX-GT-T

MAY 18 2006

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Command Policy Memorandum G3-02 – Driver's Training at the Tactical Driving Facility (TDF)

1. Purpose. To provide commander's guidance and intent for the directed driver's training at the TDF for all Soldiers assigned to the JRTC and Fort Polk.
2. Background. In OIF/OEF, 70 percent of all combat missions are mounted; 50 percent of missions are conducted at night. HMMWVs lead all other vehicles in accident rates and fatalities, where accident fatalities resulted from 73 percent rollovers, 33 percent collisions and 22 percent running off the road. Most of these fatalities were preventable and relate to driver skill competence, with one key issue being most drivers are 18 to 24 years old. Safe driving skill development and competence are critical tasks that must be mastered.
3. Intent. Driver's training on the TDF is intended to provide an opportunity for driver familiarization and confidence building in an effort to prevent and reduce operational losses, serious vehicle accidents, and fatalities.
4. Driver's Training Guidance is as follows:
 - a. The JRTC Operations Group will offer a driver's training program to all rotational units as part of the situational training exercises (STXs).
 - b. Home station units will conduct additional and advanced driver's training utilizing the TDF prior to deployment to an Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF)/Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) rotation.
 - (1) All Soldiers designated as a vehicle driver for an operational deployment and qualified IAW AR 600-55, The Army Driver and Operator Standardization Program, will participate in additional and advanced driver training for the vehicle they will be operating.
 - (2) Commanders will develop training plans for their units to meet mission specific driver's training objectives for their Soldiers in order to satisfy each unit's particular mission training requirements.

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c. Training Requirements: As a minimum, the following training activities must be conducted as part of the mission specific driver's training:

- (1) Night driving with night vision goggles.
- (2) Convoy reaction drills (e.g. IED, contact).
- (3) Vehicle rollover and water egress drills.

d. Training Objectives: Other recommended training objectives include (not all inclusive):

- (1) Convoy drills.
- (2) Traffic control point execution drills.
- (3) Vehicle recovery drills.
- (4) Vehicle load planning.

5. Available Facilities. The following facilities are available at the JRTC and Fort Polk:

a. The React to Tactical Situations Course provides a series of obstacles and potential tactical situations that occur in operational theaters, including OIF/OEF. Obstacles include villages, overpasses, a constricted road, and serpentine barriers. Commanders may use these obstacles as they see fit, augmenting the impact of the obstacles with an aggressor force and authorized pyrotechnics to train their Soldiers on the various types of ambushes and other tactical scenarios.

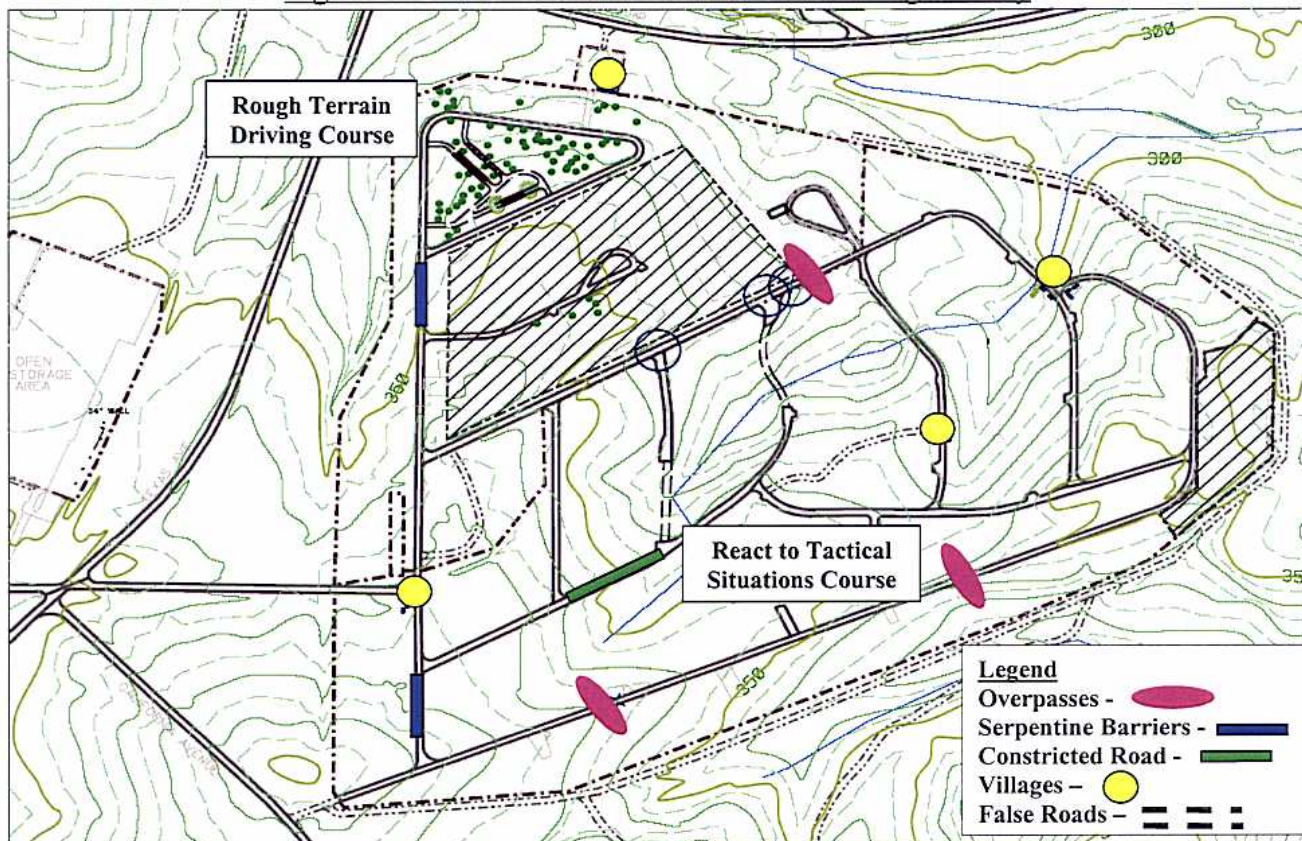
b. The Rough Terrain Driving Course provides a series of rough terrain obstacles that can occur as man-made, improved or natural obstacles, as well as coincidental damage found in operational theaters and in cross-country road moves. This course is designed to instill driving confidence, enhance driving skills, and enable split-second decision making capabilities resulting in lives saved.

c. The JRTC and Fort Polk will continue to pursue driver/operator training aids and simulators to provide opportunities to increase and improve driving skills. The HMMWV Egress Assistance Trainer (HEAT) is another tool for training Soldiers to survive accidental rollovers. All deploying HMMWV vehicle crews will conduct training with the HEAT simulator.

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Figure 1 - JRTC and Fort Polk Tactical Driving Facility



6. Information for the JRTC and Fort Polk driver's training is located on the JRTC and Fort Polk Web Site at <http://intranet.polk.army.mil/DOIM/tabid/116/Default.aspx>. This Web Site contains the TDF Standing Operating Procedure, training video and Soldier Training Package, as well as the HEAT Standing Operating Procedure.

7. This policy will remain in effect until superseded or rescinded.


MICHAEL D. BARBERO
Brigadier General (P), USA
Commanding

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